AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0006] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0006]   A method ~~of the invention for protecting~~ for data-flow protection of an optical interface ~~in data communication equipment~~ comprising ~~following steps~~:

~~(1)~~ receiving optical-signal ~~carried data-flow~~ from a source-neighboring device;

~~(2)~~ duplicating ~~above said~~the optical-signal ~~to form~~into at least two duplicated optical-signals: a first duplicated optical-signal and a second duplicated optical-signal, ~~and~~

sending the first duplicated optical-signal to ~~a~~ the protected device for processing; and

sending directly the second duplicated optical signal to be selected;

~~(3)~~ ~~according to the~~receiving a working status ~~of~~signal output generated by the protected device and an output optical-signal from the protected device, and selecting ~~either~~ one from ~~said~~the second duplicated optical-signal and the output optical-signal of ~~said~~the protected device, and sending ~~it~~the selected one to a destination-neighboring device.

Please replace Paragraph [0007] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

2   JML/kk

[0007] In ~~step (3) above~~receiving a working status signal output, if the working status signal output of the protected device is ~~detected. When the protected device is~~ normal, selecting the output optical-signal of ~~it is sent to the~~the protected device and sending the output optical-signal to the destination-neighboring device~~. When~~; if the working status output of the protected device is abnormal, selecting the second duplicated optical signal ~~generated at step (2) is selected and sent~~ directly and sending the second duplicated optical-signal to the destination-neighboring device.

Please replace Paragraph [0008] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0008] Wherein between ~~step (2) and step (3)~~duplicating the optical signal and receiving a working status signal output further ~~comprises~~comprising: re-duplicating the output optical-signal of the protected device ~~to form~~into at least two re-duplicated optical-signals. The optical power of one of the two re-duplicated optical-signals is measured. When the optical power is lower than a preset threshold value, the second duplicated optical-signal is sent to the destination-neighboring device, and ending; otherwise, selecting another re-duplicated optical-signal as the output of the protected device, and executing ~~step (3)~~receiving a working status signal output.

Please replace Paragraph [0009] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

JML/kk

[0009]   The invention proposes a data-flow protection device of an optical

interface ~~in data communication equipment~~ that includes a first optical-signal duplicating

unit and an optical-signal selecting unit. Said first optical-signal duplicating unit receives

the optical-signal sent by the source-neighboring device. The received optical-signal is

duplicated into at least two optical-signals. One of ~~them~~ the optical signals is sent to the

optical-signal selecting unit directly; another is sent to the protected device and

processed, then it is sent to the optical-signal selecting unit. According to the working

status of the protected device, the selecting unit selects one of these two inputs and

sends the duplicated optical signal to the destination-neighboring device.

                                                                            JML/kk